	(Original Signature of Member
8TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION	H.R.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Huizenga introduced the	e following bill;	which w	vas referred	to 1	the
Committee on					

A BILL

To establish a commission on fiscal responsibility and reform.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Fiscal Commission Act
- 5 of 2023".
- 6 SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.
- 7 In this Act:
- 8 (1) Co-chair.—The term "co-chair" means an
- 9 individual appointed to serve as a co-chair of the
- Fiscal Commission under section 3(a)(3)(C)(i).

1	(2) FISCAL COMMISSION.—The term "Fiscal
2	Commission" means the commission established
3	under section 3(a).
4	(3) FISCAL COMMISSION BILL.—The term "Fis-
5	cal Commission bill" means a bill consisting solely of
6	legislative language that the Fiscal Commission ap-
7	proves and submits under clauses (i) and (v), respec-
8	tively, of section $3(a)(2)(B)$.
9	(4) Outside expert.—The term "outside ex-
10	pert" is an individual who is not an elected official
11	or an officer or employee of the Federal Government
12	or of any State.
13	SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF FISCAL COMMISSION.
1 1	(a) Establishment of Fiscal Commission.—
14	
15	(1) Establishment.—No later than 60 days
	(1) Establishment.—No later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, there is es-
15	
15 16	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is es-
15 16 17	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is established in Congress a Fiscal Commission.
15 16 17 18	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is established in Congress a Fiscal Commission. (2) DUTIES.—
15 16 17 18	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is established in Congress a Fiscal Commission. (2) Duties.— (A) Improve fiscal situation.—
15 16 17 18 19	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is established in Congress a Fiscal Commission. (2) Duties.— (A) Improve fiscal situation.— (i) In general.—The Fiscal Com-
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is established in Congress a Fiscal Commission. (2) Duties.— (A) Improve fiscal situation.— (i) In general.—The Fiscal Commission shall identify policies to improve
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	after the date of enactment of this Act, there is established in Congress a Fiscal Commission. (2) Duties.— (A) Improve fiscal situation.— (i) In general.—The Fiscal Commission shall identify policies to improve the fiscal situation in the medium term

1	for which a Federal trust fund exists, to
2	improve solvency for a period of at least 75
3	years.
4	(ii) Requirements.—In carrying out
5	clause (i), the Fiscal Commission shall—
6	(I) propose recommendations de-
7	signed to balance the budget at the
8	earliest reasonable date, including at
9	minimum stabilizing the debt-to-GDP
10	ratio at or below one hundred percent
11	by the end of the 10-year period be-
12	ginning on the date the Fiscal Com-
13	mission is established; and
14	(II) propose recommendations
15	that meaningfully improve the long-
16	term fiscal outlook, including changes
17	to address the growth of direct spend-
18	ing and the gap between the projected
19	revenues and expenditures of the Fed-
20	eral Government.
21	(iii) Recommendations of commit-
22	TEES.—Not later than 60 days after the
23	date described in paragraph (1), each com-
24	mittee of the Senate and the House of
25	Representatives may transmit to the Fiscal

1	Commission any recommendations of the
2	committee relating to changes in law to
3	further the duties described in clause (ii).
4	(B) REPORT, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND
5	LEGISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—
6	(i) In General.—Notwithstanding
7	paragraph $(4)(D)(ii)(II)$, not earlier than
8	November 6, 2024, but not later than No-
9	vember 15, 2024, the Fiscal Commission
10	shall meet to consider, and vote on—
11	(I) a report that contains a de-
12	tailed statement of the findings, con-
13	clusions, and recommendations of the
14	Fiscal Commission described in sub-
15	paragraph (A)(i) and the estimate of
16	the Congressional Budget Office re-
17	quired under paragraph (4)(D)(ii);
18	and
19	(II) legislative language to carry
20	out the recommendations of the Fiscal
21	Commission in the report described in
22	subclause (I), which shall include a
23	statement of the economic and budg-
24	etary effects of the recommendations.

1	(ii) Approval of report and leg-
2	ISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—A report and legis-
3	lative language of the Fiscal Commission
4	under clause (i) shall require the approval
5	of a majority of the members of the Fiscal
6	Commission, provided that such majority
7	shall be required to include not less than
8	3 members of the Fiscal Commission ap-
9	pointed by members of the Republican
10	Party and 3 members appointed by mem-
11	bers of the Democratic party.
12	(iii) Additional views.—
13	(I) In general.—A member of
14	the Fiscal Commission who gives no-
15	tice of an intention to file supple-
16	mental, minority, or additional views
17	at the time of the final Fiscal Com-
18	mission vote on the approval of the re-
19	port and legislative language of the
20	Fiscal Commission under clause (i)
21	shall be entitled to 3 days to file those
22	views in writing with the staff director
23	of the Fiscal Commission.
24	(II) Inclusion in report.—
25	Views filed under subclause (I) shall

1	be included in the report of the Fiscal
2	Commission under clause (i) and
3	printed in the same volume, or part
4	thereof, and such inclusion shall be
5	noted on the cover of the report, ex-
6	cept that, in the absence of timely no-
7	tice, the report may be printed and
8	transmitted immediately without such
9	views.
10	(iv) Report and Legislative lan-
11	GUAGE TO BE MADE PUBLIC.—Upon the
12	approval or disapproval of a report and
13	legislative language under clause (i) by the
14	Fiscal Commission, the Fiscal Commission
15	shall promptly, and not more than 24
16	hours after the approval or disapproval or,
17	if timely notice is given under clause (iii),
18	not more than 24 hours after additional
19	views are filed under such clause, make the
20	report, the legislative language, and a
21	record of the vote on the report and legis-
22	lative language available to the public.
23	(v) Submission of Report and Leg-
24	ISLATIVE LANGUAGE.—If a report and leg-
25	islative language are approved by the Fis-

1	cal Commission under clause (i), not later
2	than 3 days after the date on which the re-
3	port and legislative language are made
4	available to the public under clause (iv),
5	the Fiscal Commission shall submit the re-
6	port and legislative language to the Presi-
7	dent, the Vice President, the Speaker of
8	the House of Representatives, and the ma-
9	jority and minority leaders of each House
10	of Congress.
11	(3) Membership.—
12	(A) In General.—The Fiscal Commission
13	shall be composed of 16 members appointed in
14	accordance with subparagraph (B) and with
15	due consideration to chairs and ranking mem-
16	bers of the committees and subcommittees of
17	subject matter jurisdiction, if applicable.
18	(B) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 14
19	days after the date described in paragraph
20	(1)—
21	(i) the majority leader of the Senate
22	shall appoint 3 individuals from among the
23	Members of the Senate, and 1 outside ex-
24	pert, who shall serve as members of the
25	Fiscal Commission;

1	(ii) the minority leader of the Senate
2	shall appoint 3 individuals from among the
3	Members of the Senate, and 1 outside ex-
4	pert who shall serve as members of the
5	Fiscal Commission;
6	(iii) the Speaker of the House of Rep-
7	resentatives shall appoint 3 individuals
8	from among the Members of the House of
9	Representatives, and 1 outside expert, who
10	shall serve as members of the Fiscal Com-
11	mission; and
12	(iv) the minority leader of the House
13	of Representatives shall appoint 3 individ-
14	uals from among the Members of the
15	House of Representatives, and 1 outside
16	expert, who shall serve as members of the
17	Fiscal Commission.
18	(C) Co-chairs.—
19	(i) In general.—Not later than 14
20	days after the date described in paragraph
21	(1), with respect to the Fiscal Commis-
22	sion—
23	(I) the leadership of the Senate
24	and House of Representatives of the
25	same political party as the President

1	shall appoint 1 individual from among
2	the members of the Fiscal Commis-
3	sion who shall serve as a co-chair of
4	the Fiscal Commission; and
5	(II) the leadership of the Senate
6	and House of Representatives of the
7	opposite political party as the Presi-
8	dent, shall appoint 1 individual from
9	among the members of the Fiscal
10	Commission who shall serve as a co-
11	chair of the Fiscal Commission.
12	(ii) Staff director.—With respect
13	to the Fiscal Commission, the co-chairs of
14	the Fiscal Commission, acting jointly, shall
15	hire the staff director of the Fiscal Com-
16	mission.
17	(D) Period of Appointment.—
18	(i) IN GENERAL.—The members of
19	the Fiscal Commission shall be appointed
20	for the life of the Fiscal Commission.
21	(ii) Vacancy.—
22	(I) IN GENERAL.—Any vacancy
23	in the Fiscal Commission shall not af-
24	fect the powers of the Fiscal Commis-
25	sion, but shall be filled not later than

1	14 days after the date on which the
2	vacancy occurs, in the same manner
3	as the original appointment was
4	made.
5	(II) Ineligible members.—If a
6	member of the Fiscal Commission who
7	was appointed as a Member of the
8	Senate or the House Representatives
9	ceases to be a Member of the Senate
10	or the House of Representatives, as
11	applicable—
12	(aa) the member shall no
13	longer be a member of the Fiscal
14	Commission; and
15	(bb) a vacancy in the Fiscal
16	Commission exists.
17	(4) Administration.—
18	(A) In General.—With respect to the
19	Fiscal Commission, to enable the Fiscal Com-
20	mission to exercise the powers, functions, and
21	duties of the Fiscal Commission, there are au-
22	thorized to be disbursed by the Senate the ac-
23	tual and necessary expenses of the Fiscal Com-
24	mission approved by the co-chairs of the Fiscal

1	Commission, subject to the rules and regula-
2	tions of the Senate.
3	(B) Expenses.—With respect to the Fis-
4	cal Commission, in carrying out the functions of
5	the Fiscal Commission, the Fiscal Commission
6	is authorized to incur expenses in the same
7	manner and under the same conditions as the
8	Joint Economic Committee is authorized under
9	section 11(d) of the Employment Act of 1946
10	(15 U.S.C. 1024(d)).
11	(C) Quorum.—With respect to the Fiscal
12	Commission, 9 members of the Fiscal Commis-
13	sion shall constitute a quorum for purposes of
14	voting, meeting, and holding hearings.
15	(D) Voting.—
16	(i) Proxy voting.—No proxy voting
17	shall be allowed on behalf of any member
18	of the Fiscal Commission.
19	(ii) Congressional budget office
20	ESTIMATES.—
21	(I) IN GENERAL.—The Director
22	of the Congressional Budget Office
23	shall, with respect to the legislative
24	language of the Fiscal Commission

1	under paragraph (2)(B)(i)(II), provide
2	to the Fiscal Commission—
3	(aa) estimates of the legisla-
4	tive language in accordance with
5	sections 308(a) and 201(f) of the
6	Congressional Budget Act of
7	1974 (2 U.S.C. 639(a) and
8	601(f)); and
9	(bb) information on the
10	budgetary effect of the legislative
11	language on the long-term fiscal
12	outlook.
13	(II) LIMITATION.—The Fiscal
14	Commission may not vote on any
15	version of the report, recommenda-
16	tions, or legislative language of the
17	Fiscal Commission under paragraph
18	(2)(B)(i) unless the estimates and in-
19	formation described in subclause (I)
20	of this clause are made available for
21	consideration by all members of the
22	Fiscal Commission not later than 48
23	hours before that vote, as certified by
24	the co-chairs of the Fiscal Commis-
25	sion.

1	(E) MEETINGS.—
2	(i) Initial meeting.—Not later than
3	45 days after the date described in para-
4	graph (1), the Fiscal Commission shall
5	hold the first meeting of the Fiscal Com-
6	mission.
7	(ii) Agenda.—For each meeting of
8	the Fiscal Commission, the co-chairs of the
9	Fiscal Commission shall provide an agenda
10	to the members of the Fiscal Commission
11	not later than 48 hours before the meeting.
12	(F) Hearings.—
13	(i) In General.—The Fiscal Com-
14	mission may, for the purpose of carrying
15	out this section, hold such hearings, sit
16	and act at such times and places, require
17	attendance of witnesses and production of
18	books, papers, and documents, take such
19	testimony, receive such evidence, and ad-
20	minister such oaths as the Fiscal Commis-
21	sion considers advisable.
22	(ii) Hearing procedures and re-
23	SPONSIBILITIES OF CO-CHAIRS.—
24	(I) Announcement.—The co-
25	chairs of the Fiscal Commission shall

1	make a public announcement of the
2	date, place, time, and subject matter
3	of any hearing to be conducted under
4	this subparagraph not later than 7
5	days before the date of the hearing,
6	unless the co-chairs determine that
7	there is good cause to begin such
8	hearing on an earlier date.
9	(II) WRITTEN STATEMENT.—A
10	witness appearing before the Fiscal
11	Commission shall file a written state-
12	ment of the proposed testimony of the
13	witness not later than 2 days before
14	the date of the appearance of the wit-
15	ness, unless the co-chairs of the Fiscal
16	Commission—
17	(aa) determine that there is
18	good cause for the witness to not
19	file the written statement; and
20	(bb) waive the requirement
21	that the witness file the written
22	statement.
23	(G) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Upon writ-
24	ten request of the co-chairs of the Fiscal Com-
25	mission, the head of a Federal agency shall pro-

1	vide technical assistance to the Fiscal Commis-
2	sion in order for the Fiscal Commission to
3	carry out the duties of the Fiscal Commission.
4	(H) Outside expert.—Any outside ex-
5	pert appointed to the Fiscal Commission—
6	(i) shall not be considered to be a
7	Federal employee for any purpose by rea-
8	son of service on the Fiscal Commission;
9	and
10	(ii) shall be allowed travel expenses,
11	including per diem in lieu of subsistence,
12	at rates authorized for employees of agen-
13	cies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of
14	title 5, United States Code, while away
15	from their homes or regular places of busi-
16	ness in the performance of services for the
17	Commission.
18	(b) STAFF OF FISCAL COMMISSION.—
19	(1) In general.—The co-chairs of the Fiscal
20	Commission may jointly appoint and fix the com-
21	pensation of staff of the Fiscal Commission as the
22	co-chairs determine necessary, in accordance with
23	the guidelines, rules, and requirements relating to
24	employees of the Senate.
25	(2) Ethical standards.—

1	(A) Senate.—Members appointed by
2	Members of the Senate who serve on the Fiscal
3	Commission and staff of the Fiscal Commission
4	shall adhere to the ethics rules of the Senate.
5	(B) House of representatives.—Mem-
6	bers appointed by Members of the House of
7	Representatives who serve on the Fiscal Com-
8	mission shall be governed by the ethics rules
9	and requirements of the House of Representa-
10	tives.
11	(c) TERMINATION.—The Fiscal Commission shall ter-
12	minate on the date that is 30 days after the date the Fis-
13	cal Commission submits the report under subsection
14	(a)(2)(B)(v).
15	SEC. 4. EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF FISCAL COMMIS-
16	SION BILLS.
17	(a) QUALIFYING LEGISLATION.—Only a Fiscal Com-
18	mission bill shall be entitled to expedited consideration
19	under this section.
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20	(b) Consideration in the House of Represent-
	(b) Consideration in the House of Representatives.—
21	
20212223	ATIVES.—
21 22	ATIVES.— (1) Introduction.—If the Fiscal Commission

1	solely of that legislative language shall be introduced
2	in the House of Representatives (by request)—
3	(A) by the majority leader of the House of
4	Representatives, or by a Member of the House
5	of Representatives designated by the majority
6	leader of the House of Representatives, on the
7	third legislative day after the date the Fiscal
8	Commission approves and submits such legisla-
9	tive language; or
10	(B) if the Fiscal Commission bill is not in-
11	troduced under subparagraph (A), by any Mem-
12	ber of the House of Representatives on any leg-
13	islative day beginning on the legislative day
14	after the legislative day described in subpara-
15	graph (A).
16	(2) Referral and reporting.—Any com-
17	mittee of the House of Representatives to which a
18	Fiscal Commission bill is referred shall report the
19	Fiscal Commission bill to the House of Representa-
20	tives without amendment not later than 5 legislative
21	days after the date on which the Fiscal Commission
22	bill was so referred. If any committee of the House
23	of Representatives to which a Fiscal Commission bill
24	is referred fails to report the Fiscal Commission bill
25	within that period, that committee shall be auto-

- 1 matically discharged from consideration of the Fiscal
 2 Commission bill, and the Fiscal Commission bill
 3 shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.
 - (3) Proceeding to consider a Fiscal the last committee authorized to consider a Fiscal Commission bill reports it to the House of Representatives or has been discharged from its consideration, it shall be in order to move to proceed to consider the Fiscal Commission bill in the House of Representatives. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House of Representatives has disposed of a motion to proceed with respect to the Fiscal Commission bill. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.
 - (4) Consideration.—The Fiscal Commission bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against the Fiscal Commission bill and against its consideration are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the Fiscal Commission bill to its passage without intervening motion except 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent.
 - (5) Vote on Passage.—The vote on passage of the Fiscal Commission bill shall occur pursuant to

1	the constraints under clause 8 of rule XX of the
2	Rules of the House of Representatives.
3	(c) Expedited Procedure in the Senate.—
4	(1) Introduction in the senate.—If the
5	Fiscal Commission approves and submits legislative
6	language under clauses (i) and (v), respectively, of
7	section 3(a)(2)(B), a Fiscal Commission bill con-
8	sisting solely of that legislative language may be in-
9	troduced in the Senate (by request)—
10	(A) by the majority leader of the Senate,
11	or by a Member of the Senate designated by the
12	majority leader of the Senate, on the next day
13	on which the Senate is in session; or
14	(B) if the Fiscal Commission bill is not in-
15	troduced under subparagraph (A), by any Mem-
16	ber of the Senate on any day on which the Sen-
17	ate is in session beginning on the day after the
18	day described in subparagraph (A).
19	(2) Committee consideration.—A Fiscal
20	Commission bill introduced in the Senate under
21	paragraph (1) shall be jointly referred to the com-
22	mittee or committees of jurisdiction, which commit-
23	tees shall report the Fiscal Commission bill without
24	any revision and with a favorable recommendation,
25	an unfavorable recommendation, or without rec-

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ommendation, not later than 5 session days after the date on which the Fiscal Commission bill was so referred. If any committee to which a Fiscal Commission bill is referred fails to report the Fiscal Commission bill within that period, that committee shall be automatically discharged from consideration of the Fiscal Commission bill, and the Fiscal Commission bill shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

(3) Proceeding.—Notwithstanding rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order, not later than 2 days of session after the date on which a Fiscal Commission bill is reported or discharged from all committees to which the Fiscal Commission bill was referred, for the majority leader of the Senate or the designee of the majority leader to move to proceed to the consideration of the Fiscal Commission bill. It shall also be in order for any Member of the Senate to move to proceed to the consideration of the Fiscal Commission bill at any time after the conclusion of such 2-day period. A motion to proceed is in order even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to. All points of order against the motion to proceed to the Fiscal Commission bill are waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject

1	to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the
2	vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed
3	to shall not be in order. If a motion to proceed to
4	the consideration of the Fiscal Commission bill is
5	agreed to, the Fiscal Commission bill shall remain
6	the unfinished business until disposed of. All points
7	of order against a Fiscal Commission bill and
8	against consideration of the Fiscal Commission bill
9	are waived.
10	(4) No amendment to a
11	Fiscal Commission bill, or a motion to postpone, or
12	a motion to proceed to the consideration of other
13	business, or a motion to recommit the Fiscal Com-
14	mission bill, is not in order.
15	(5) Rulings of the chair on procedure.—
16	Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to
17	the application of the rules of the Senate, as the
18	case may be, to the procedure relating to a Fiscal
19	Commission bill shall be decided without debate.
20	(d) Amendment.—A Fiscal Commission bill shall
21	not be subject to amendment in either the Senate or the
22	House of Representatives.
23	(e) Consideration by the Other House.—
24	(1) In general.—If, before passing a Fiscal
25	Commission bill, a House receives from the other

1	House a Fiscal Commission bill consisting of legisla-
2	tive language approved by the same Fiscal Commis-
3	sion as the Fiscal Commission bill in the receiving
4	House—
5	(A) the Fiscal Commission bill of the other
6	House shall not be referred to a committee; and
7	(B) the procedure in the receiving House
8	shall be the same as if no Fiscal Commission
9	bill had been received from the other House
10	until the vote on passage, when the Fiscal Com-
11	mission bill received from the other House shall
12	supplant the Fiscal Commission bill of the re-
13	ceiving House.
14	(2) REVENUE MEASURES.—This subsection
15	shall not apply to the House of Representatives if a
16	Fiscal Commission bill received from the Senate is
17	a revenue measure.
18	(f) Rules to Coordinate Action With Other
19	House.—
20	(1) Treatment of fiscal commission bill
21	OF OTHER HOUSE.—If a Fiscal Commission bill is
22	not introduced in the Senate or the Senate fails to
23	consider a Fiscal Commission bill under this section,
24	the Fiscal Commission bill of the House of Rep-
25	resentatives consisting of legislative language ap-

- 23 1 proved by the same Fiscal Commission as the Fiscal 2 Commission bill in the Senate shall be entitled to ex-3 pedited floor procedures under this section. 4 (2) Treatment of companion measures in THE SENATE.—If, following passage of a Fiscal 5 6 Commission bill in the Senate, the Senate then receives from the House of Representatives a Fiscal 7 8 Commission bill approved by the same Fiscal Com-9 mission and consisting of the same legislative lan-10 guage as the Senate-passed Fiscal Commission bill, 11 the House-passed Fiscal Commission bill shall not 12 be debatable. The vote on passage of the Fiscal 13 Commission bill in the Senate shall be considered to 14 be the vote on passage of the Fiscal Commission bill received from the House of Representatives. 15 16 (3) Vetoes.—If the President vetoes a Fiscal 17 Commission bill, consideration of a veto message in 18 the Senate under this paragraph shall be 10 hours 19 equally divided between the majority and minority 20 leaders of the Senate or the designees of the major-21 ity and minority leaders of the Senate.
- 22 SEC. 5. FUNDING.
- Funding for the Fiscal Commission shall be derived
- 24 in equal portions from—

1	(1) the contingent fund of the Senate from the
2	appropriations account "Miscellaneous Items", sub-
3	ject to the rules and regulations of the Senate; and
4	(2) the applicable accounts of the House of
5	Representatives.
6	SEC. 6. RULEMAKING.
7	The provisions of this Act are enacted by Congress—
8	(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of
9	the Senate and the House of Representatives, re-
10	spectively, and, as such, the provisions—
11	(A) shall be considered as part of the rules
12	of each House, respectively, or of that House to
13	which they specifically apply; and
14	(B) shall supersede other rules only to the
15	extent that they are inconsistent therewith; and
16	(2) with full recognition of the constitutional
17	right of either House to change such rules (so far
18	as relating to such House) at any time, in the same
19	manner, and to the same extent as in the case of
20	any other rule of such House